

Biographical Data

(full information from nomination forms is available from the Synod Office)

Consultation Committee-Lay male (term ending 2025)

Mr. Nikolas Thomas Bayuk

Congregation: Waters of Life Lutheran Church, Duluth

Age: 38

Occupation: Transmission Compliance Specialist – Minnesota Power-ALLETE

Experience that has prepared you for service in this capacity:

- I have served on Waters of Life Church Council (including past President) for 4 years. I understand the dynamics of church business and the conflicts that can arise.
- I have helped teach Sunday School at Waters of Life for 9 years and understand how important the strength of the church and church programming is to children's parents.
- A very large part of my job is compliance conflict resolution amongst colleagues and our utilities regulators.

Congregational, Synodical or Churchwide activities you have been or currently are involved in:

- Current member of Waters of Life Lutheran Church – past governing board for Bubbling Brooke Child Care Center.
- Assistant Waters of Life Sunday School teacher for 9 years.
- Congregational liaison for the Theology Uncapped events.

Educational Background:

- Bachelor of Arts Degree – Communication Studies/Political Science – University of Wisconsin Superior

I would like to serve in this capacity because: I have wanted to become more involved in the activities of the Synod. I enjoy peer mediation and believe I can be a good voice to this committee. I have become more resolute in my faith in the past several years and would like to take this opportunity to serve not only my church and Synod, but further serve God in our world here on Earth.

Biographical Data

(full information from nomination forms is available from the Synod Office)

Consultation Committee-Lay male (term ending 2021)

Mr. David Erdmann

Congregation: Faith (SALT Parish), Culver

Age: 58

Occupation: Synodically authorized minister - SALT parish

Experience that has prepared you for service in this capacity:

- Synodically authorized minister - Oct. 30 2016 - present
- Completed candidacy process
- Approved as an Associate in ministry

Congregational, Synodical or Churchwide activities you have been or currently are involved in:

- Serving second term on nomination committee
- Serving on 2020 Bishops election committee
- Served on Bishops "Respectful conversations" task force

Educational Background:

- High School Diploma
- School of Lay Ministry
- Approved by ELCA Chicago office of undergraduate degree - Life experience

I would like to serve in this capacity because: I already deal with consultation in my 4 churches within my parish. I believe my experience in the "Respectful conversations" task force will be helpful. 35 years in retail management, supervising employees, resolving differences.

Biographical Data

(full information from nomination forms is available from the Synod Office)

Synod Council - At Large, Multicultural

Ms. Colleen Bernu

Congregation: Bethesda Lutheran Church, Carlton

Age: 45

Occupation: Mission Developer

Experience that has prepared you for service in this capacity:

- Descendent of the Fond Du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa and member of the tribal community
- Serve as community advisor for tribal grants and Carlton School District programs
- Led educational workshops, Blanket Exercise experiences and deep listening sessions throughout NE MN Synod

Congregational, Synodical or Churchwide activities you have been or currently are involved in:

- Development of Together Here Ministries and serve on the Bridge Building Task Force and Anit-Racism Team
- Ministry collaborator with partners in ELCA American Indian/Alaska Native Ministries
- Presenter at Western Mission Network as well as NW WI, NW MN and Alaska Synods, of the ELCA

Educational Background:

- High School Diploma
- Bachelor of Science Degrees - Mathematics Education and Biology; Diploma -

Accounting Assistant

- Successful completion of Select Learning Program

I would like to serve in this capacity because: I believe that all people are wonderfully and beautifully created in the image of God. Through our diversity, we bring depth to our understanding of not only who God our Creator is but also how God invites us to be in relationship with God and each other. I want to serve on Synod Council to ensure the voice of BIPOC is represented as we walk together in our Synod.